

THE GOVERNOR'S MEDAL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Purpose

The State of Utah has chosen the Governor's Medals as a symbol of recognition to those individuals who have provided distinguished service to the State of Utah in the fields of science and technology.

Rationale

The State of Utah has a deep commitment toward creating and sustaining a strong scientific and technological base for its educational and economic development. Much of the success of Utah's industry is due to technological achievements that have occurred within the State and to the caliber of scientists and science educators residing in Utah. The State wishes to showcase and publicly recognize talented individuals and groups who have contributed to Utah's science and technology achievements in the form of an award from the Office of the Governor. The form of the award, a medal, was chosen as one of particular prestige.

Administration of the Award

The administration of the Governor's Medals program is the responsibility of the State Advisory Council on Science and Technology. A special sub-committee is appointed to solicit nominations, select candidates and secure media attention. The awards are presented once each year to up to 10 individuals. The Governor presents the medals at a formal ceremony, covered by the media.

Selection Criteria

The intent of the Governor's Medal is to recognize the total impact of the recipient's contribution to the State. It is not simply a scientific achievement award. For this reason, there are many factors considered when selecting award recipients. The Council recognizes the unique contributions of individuals working, over time, on matters of importance to the State.

Additionally, the Council recognizes the need to distribute awards amongst the industrial, educational, and governmental sectors. The distribution recognizes five categories:

1. Academia
2. Science Education
3. Industry
4. Government
5. Special

Selection of Recipients

Unless an individual is considered under the "Special" category, the following criteria apply to all nominees:

1. The recipient must be a full-time resident of Utah for at least five consecutive years immediately preceding the award year.
2. The recipient must have been nominated for an award in the current year. Automatic reconsideration of previous years' nominees will not be considered.
3. The recipient must have demonstrated accomplishments in the fields of science, engineering, technology or technology management.

4. The strength of accomplishments shall be considered in light of these factors:
 - a. merit and uniqueness of achievement
 - b. results of peer review and recognition
 - c. social impact
 - d. economic benefit to the State
 - e. public awareness impact
 - f. environmental impact to the State

Additional Selection Criteria or Considerations by Category

Category 1: Academia

For members of the faculty or administration of higher education institutions who distinguished themselves in the field of science, engineering or other technologies, these additional factors should be considered:

1. Quality of research activities
2. Extent of recognition by peers nationally
3. Recognition as an educator

Category 2: Science Education

For science teachers in Utah's elementary and secondary schools, science communicators and other individuals who have made a notable contribution in science education, these additional factors should be considered:

1. Degree of national or local recognition as a science educator
2. Involvement in innovative science education activities outside of the classroom
3. Other awards received in recognition of teaching achievements
4. Personal research and science achievements

Category 3: Industry (including inventors and entrepreneurs)

For engineers, scientists, technologists and technology managers within Utah's industry, these additional factors should be considered:

1. Quality of scientific or engineering achievement
2. Significance of technical contributions including patents, know-how and other intellectual property
3. Economic impact to Utah
4. Distinguished achievements in the management of technology

Category 4: Government

For members of State, Municipal and Federal Governments residing in Utah, these additional factors should be considered:

1. Achievements as a scientist, engineer or technologist
2. Recognition by members of academia, education and industry

Special Category

Nominations under the Special Category will be by invitation of the Council or Governor only. The Council recognizes there may, at times, be individuals not specifically meeting the criteria specified above, but who merit recognition under this award. Therefore the Council reserves the right to consider individuals of merit invited by the Council and/or the Governor, for award of the Governor's Medal.

Disqualification

If any of the following descriptions apply, the candidate will not be considered for the Governors' Medal:

1. Current members of the State Advisory Council on Science and Technology
2. Previous award recipients

Nomination and Selection Process

Each year, the Council shall form a Governor's Medal Subcommittee for the purpose of soliciting nominations, reviewing nominations and selecting award recipients. The Subcommittee shall recommend award recipients to the Council for approval by the Council. The Subcommittee shall be made up of three members of the Council, in addition to the State Science Advisor. One of the Council members shall be appointed Chairman of the Subcommittee.

Nominations shall follow a two-step submittal process. **FIRST**, a request for nominations shall be distributed to the public via general, focused and electronic mailings, facilitated by invitations to use the web-based application link provided by the Governor's Office. The "first-step" submittal shall be in the form of a **single-page, structured format application**.

As needed and at the sole discretion of the Medals Subcommittee, nominees (or their advocates) selected from the first round of applications may be asked to submit a **SECOND**, more complete application package. This submittal would provide expanded detail regarding the significance and accomplishments of the candidates' work, one or more letters of nomination, curriculum vitae and references. Nominees who have not submitted a first-round application may not be considered, unless specifically solicited by the Medals Subcommittee.

Nominations shall be reproduced and distributed by the Science Advisor to all members of the Subcommittee providing sufficient time for review. The Subcommittee shall meet to select the award recipients and shall employ a selection process based upon the selection criteria mentioned above.

Approval and Award Ceremony

The Chairman of the Subcommittee shall present the recommendations for awards to the Council. The Council shall review these recommendations and approve or disqualify award nominees. The approved names shall be sent to the State Science Advisor, who shall provide for the procurement of award medals. The Subcommittee shall prepare brief written citations for each recipient to be read at the award ceremony.

The awards shall be presented at a ceremony to be scheduled by the Office of the State Science Advisor to accommodate the Governor's schedule. The Chair of the Council shall preside over the ceremony and present the awards. It is the responsibility of the Subcommittee to secure media coverage for this event.

Contact

All requests for information and nominations should be sent to:

State of Utah - Science Advisor
Department of Community & Economic Development
324 South State Street – Suite 500
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Phone: (801) 538-8616 / Fax: (801) 538-8888